

3-1-2007

## UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 82, No. 37

WKU Student Affairs

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2

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WHAT'S GOING ON

◆Eating disorders screening, 11 a.m. today, Downing University Center and Garrett Center lobbies

◆Mammoth Cave/Warren County Conservation Forestry Seminar, 6:30 p.m. today, Agricultural Exposition Center

◆Musical: "Street Scene," 8 p.m. today, tomorrow and Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Russell Miller Theater

◆Sigili: Dark Keetoowah Cherokee Tales, 7:30 p.m. today, Mass Media and Technology Hall

◆Gameathon 2.0, 9 a.m. Saturday, Mass Media and Technology Hall

a thousand words

B e y o n d   t h e   H i l l

T

rying to find a job as a mechanic in the Chicago area had been difficult for James Bond, who has been tinkering with cars since he performed his first oil change at the age of 8.

While he was on vacation visiting his parents in Bowling Green, they encouraged him to apply for a job at the local Tech Tune. Within a day or two of filling out the application, Bond had a new job and a new place to live. In Indiana, about 30 miles outside of Chicago, he had lived on his own for 12 years; he had a career and an established life.

Now he has a room in his parents' house, and most of his belongings are in storage.

"I love my parents, but I love them more when I have a buffer zone," Bond said. Bond has been saving to get his own place and said he hopes to move out within the next three months.

*Sarah Dudik is a junior photojournalism major from Washington, Pa. Reach her at [sarah.dudik@wku.edu](mailto:sarah.dudik@wku.edu).*

► Crime reports

Reports

◆Joshua A. Smith, Pearce-Ford Tower, reported assault in the fourth degree in PFT's lobby on Feb. 26 when he was checking IDs at the front desk and a person who entered the building caused an altercation.

◆Police responded to a fire alarm on the fourth floor of Keen Hall on Feb. 27. Someone had set fire to a poster hung on the wall in front of the elevators. Upon arrival, the poster was on the ground and no longer burning. No damage was done to university property, but the incident was ruled arson in the fourth degree.

Arrests

◆Julie J. Scott, Morgantown, was arrested on charges of care-

less driving, possession of an open container of alcohol in a vehicle and driving under the influence on Chestnut Street on Feb. 25. She was released from Warren County Regional Jail the same day on a \$750 cash bond.

◆Maxwell G. Schott, Nashville Road, was arrested on charges of an expired registration plate, possession of marijuana, driving under the influence, possession of drug paraphernalia and operating on a suspended license in Diddle lot on Feb. 24. He was released from Warren County jail on the same day on a \$750 cash bond.

◆Brandy D. West, Nutwood Street, was arrested on charges of speeding and driving under the influence on Normal Drive and

University Boulevard on Feb. 24. She was released from Warren County jail the same day on a \$715.85 cash bond.

◆Philip K. Lucas, Floyd's Knob, Ind., was arrested on charges of failure to illuminate headlights and driving under the influence in the Gables parking lot on Creason Street on Feb. 25. He was released from Warren County jail the same day on a \$250 cash bond and a \$690.20 unsecured bond.

◆Brittany D. Highland, Knoxville, Tenn., was arrested on charges of speeding and driving under the influence on University Boulevard and Normal Drive on Feb. 25. She was released from Warren County jail the same day on a \$750 cash bond.

► Correction

Due to a Herald error, the hometown of Dishal Solanki was incorrectly identified in the People Poll on page 4 of the Feb. 27 issue.

Solanki is from Ahmedabad, India.

Due to a Herald error, the hometown of Dan Talley was incorrectly identified in a caption on the sports front of the Feb. 22 issue.

Talley is from Princeton, Ky. The Herald regrets the errors.

*The College Heights Herald corrects all confirmed errors that are brought to reporters' or editors' attention. Please call 745-6011 or 745-5044 to report a correction, or e-mail us at [herald@wkuherald.com](mailto:herald@wkuherald.com).*

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Beyond the Hill

# House votes to bring back vetoed projects

By Katie Brandenburg  
Herald reporter

The Kentucky House of Representatives voted to reinstate Western's vetoed projects Wednesday.

The bill would put projects from across the state back into the budget after Gov. Ernie Fletcher vetoed them last year.

The bill passed the House with a 94-5 vote.

President Gary Ransdell said the projects are critical for Western, and he's confident the bill will pass.

It must go to the Senate for a vote and the governor for approval.

Three of Western's projects in the bill would be funded by state money, and four projects would let Western use bonds to

complete projects, said Robbin Taylor, assistant to the president for governmental relations.

State-funded projects include \$9 million to renovate Science and Technology Hall, \$4.5 million to build a materials characterization center and \$5.8 million to plan and design a replacement building for Grise Hall.

The bonded projects are \$10 million to expand the Preston Center, \$16 million to renovate Van Meter Hall, \$4 million to improve north campus parking and \$8 million to renovate the fine arts center.

The bill would also reinstate more than \$14 million to build an advanced technology center at Owensboro Community and Technical College.

Rep. Jim DeCesare, R-

Bowling Green, voted against the bill because he wanted to ask a question about the bill, but he wasn't acknowledged.

He said he wanted to ask whether the bill included only the projects vetoed from the legislature's original version of the budget. If so, he would have voted for the bill.

Rep. Johnny Bell, D-Glasgow, said university projects in the bill are important. Bell co-sponsored the bill.

He said most of the projects for schools didn't require new money from the state, but allowed them to use bonds to help pay for projects.

Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wkuherald.com.

Beyond the Hill

# Child abuse case proceeds

By Christina Allen  
Herald reporter

A Western student and her boyfriend have both been charged with being mentally ill and dangerous to themselves and others after being arrested last month on child abuse charges.

The people accused, Bowling Green sophomore Dreva A. Kirkwood and Leroy J. Sturdivant, will undergo mental evaluations as a result of the charges, according to the Warren County Regional Jail.

Kirkwood was arrested on Feb. 12 on charges of criminal abuse in the second degree, and Sturdivant was arrested the same day on charges of assault in the first degree, the Herald previously reported.

Kirkwood and Sturdivant were being held in Warren County jail as of Wednesday. Each are on a \$1 million cash bond.

They were arrested after bringing Kirkwood's 3-year-old son to

The Medical Center, where officials found severe bruises all over his body, cracked ribs in various stages of healing and belt marks, according to police reports.

He wasn't breathing, and physicians couldn't find a heartbeat, according to the reports.

The child was life-flighted and admitted to Vanderbilt Hospital in serious condition, the Herald previously reported.

Warren County jail can't release the results of Sturdivant and Kirkwood's evaluations because they're not allowed to discuss inmates' medical information.

When jail inmates are charged with being mentally ill and dangerous to themselves and others, a therapist from LifeSkills administers mental evaluations, according to the jail. LifeSkills is a local, nonprofit organization that gives mental evaluations.

The therapist gives a report of the evaluation results to a judge, who decides whether

the inmates need to be admitted to a mental hospital.

Jerry Corbitt, public information officer for the Bowling Green Police Department, said Wednesday that he hasn't received new information on the child's condition. The hospital can't release the child's official condition.

If the child dies, the couple could face charges of anywhere from manslaughter to murder, he previously said.

Sturdivant admitted to causing the bruises and said Kirkwood knew about his actions, the report states.

Sturdivant also said in the reports that Kirkwood would leave her children alone in her apartment while he drove her to and from her classes at Western.

Child Protective Services has taken custody of the child, Corbitt said.

Reach Christina Allen at news@wkuherald.com.

Campus life

# ABC Elevator denies fault, responds to student's lawsuit

By Katie Brandenburg  
Herald reporter

The defendant in a civil case involving a Western student answered his complaint last week, six months after the suit was originally filed in Warren County circuit court.

ABC Elevator company has denied fault for Bowling Green junior Patrick Ledbetter's fall from a Cherry Hall elevator on Aug. 29, 2005.

The elevator opened while it was one or two feet above the floor, and momentum caused Ledbetter to fall when he rolled forward in his wheelchair, according to the original complaint.

He filed the suit against Western and the ABC Elevator company on Aug. 25, 2006.

ABC Elevator company filed an answer to Ledbetter's complaint on Feb. 22.

The company was served with the complaint on Dec. 6. The office of the Secretary of State had been attempting to serve the company with the complaint since Aug. 31, 2006.

J. Denis Ogburn, the attorney for ABC, said a partner for the company had died, and the papers had been misdirected.

The case is in the discovery phase because the company just learned of the accident a few months ago, Ogburn said.

In the answer to the complaint, the company denies that it failed to properly maintain the Cherry Hall elevator, that it was in breach of any warranty on the elevator and that their actions were the cause of Ledbetter's injuries.

Injuries might be Ledbetter's fault, or the fault of others who ABC had no control over, the company's response states.

Ogburn wouldn't comment on the specifics of the case because it is in active litigation.

Rick Hughes, Ledbetter's attorney, said they'll attempt mediation before going to trial.

"It's cost effective," Hughes said. "If we can't, we'll go ahead and try the case."

Western was dropped from the civil suit because of governmental immunity on Oct. 2, 2006, the Herald previously reported.

Western claimed governmental immunity in the case because it is an agent of the state, the Herald previously reported.

Suits against state agencies must go through the Board of Claims, said Western's General Counsel Deborah Wilkins.

Ledbetter also filed a suit in the Board of Claims against Western, Wilkins said.

Hughes said he filed the complaint with the court and the Board of Claims because it was the most prudent decision.

"The problem with the Board of Claims is that you don't get all of your damages," he said.

The case against Western was set to be heard in Warren County circuit court on March 27, Hughes said. It has been postponed so he can take a statement from Ledbetter's doctor, he said.

Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wkuherald.com.



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2 PFT, FLOORS 1-12	134	2 BEMIS LAWRENCE	110	2 RODES HARLIN	90
3 PFT, FLOORS 14-24	113	3 ZACHARIAS HALL	110	3 GILBERT HALL	81
4 POLAND HALL	111	4 MEREDITH HALL	104		

GAME 4		CHECK OUT WHO'S WINNING!  SCORES UPDATED 2/26/07	GAME 5	
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OPINION

College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Thursday, March 1, 2007 • Page 4

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EDITORIAL

Don't hesitate to report harassment

THE ISSUE: An administrator retired amid sexual harassment allegations from a student.

OUR VIEW: Students, staff and faculty should report such problems as a way to protect themselves and others.

Students, staff and faculty at Western recently learned that a student filed a report stating that Luther Hughes, the former associate vice president for enrollment management, had sexually harassed her. Hughes announced his retirement on Jan. 29, six days after the student was first interviewed about the matter by the Office of Equal Opportunity/504/ADA Compliance.

Details are still being investigated, and it would be wrong to leap to any conclusions about what happened. But this incident illustrates why it's important for a student, staff member or faculty member to come forward if they think they are being sexually harassed.

According to a 2006 report by the American Association of University Women, nearly two-thirds of students experience sexual harassment at some point during college, including nearly one-third of first-year students.

No one employed at any institution should have to work in an uncomfortable atmosphere. In particular, no one should have to feel intimidated or maligned by someone in a higher position who behaves inappropriately or demands favors.

This is why it's important for students to be well informed on sexual harassment and its consequences. Reporting these incidents can be difficult and sometimes embarrassing, but taking action to stop them can make people aware of behavior that is damaging to a healthy social setting.

Reporting harassment forces the university to examine the situation and do what is necessary.

It wouldn't hurt the university to take a second look at how it enforces and educates people about

its harassment policy. Many students know about harassment only from poorly produced videos that are required viewing at places of employment. Some might not be aware of the consequences.

An online sexual harassment quiz created for Western employees and first implemented in November seemed to exist mostly to make the university less liable in possible lawsuits — that is, so tangible evidence would show that employees knew the policy. It's unclear how many employees were well educated by the quiz.

Taking a proactive role in educating employees about the matter is Western's responsibility. No computer screen can substitute for a person-to-person explanation of what is and isn't considered acceptable. When such reports are made, those following the issue need a strong understanding of the process involved.

When someone experiences or witnesses something that may involve sexual harassment, they cannot just stand back and act like it will go away. Whatever the outcome, such incidents must be reported so the problem can be investigated and others can be aware.

This editorial represents the majority view of the Herald's 10-member board of student editors.

Who to call to report sexual harassment at Western:

- ◆ Huda Melky, Equal Opportunity/504/ADA Compliance Director, (270) 745-5121
- ◆ Tony Glisson, Director of Human Resources, (270) 745-5360
- ◆ Howard Bailey, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Development, (270) 745-2791



Go online to our editor's blog to learn how we covered the story.  
www.wkuherald.com



COMMENTARY

Guns have no place in classrooms



by Brandon Wilson

There are some things we as students never expect to see in a classroom. Things that are not a natural fit in that environment. I thought one of those things was a firearm of any kind. But, apparently I was wrong.

I was in a sociology class not long ago and noticed that an off-duty Bowling Green police officer was in the room. He was in his full uniform, including his utility belt, gun in holster.

Just thinking about it now, I am still in shock. A gun in a classroom! This is by far the dumbest thing I have seen as a Western student. There is no excuse for this. I do not care that he is an officer.

I was discussing this with some of my classmates and I am convinced that there is no logical reasoning for this officer to have his gun.

First of all, lets say he doesn't get out of class until 30 minutes before he is supposed to be at work. I don't care. If he can't find a place to lock his gun up until he is on duty,

then he should reschedule his classes so that he gives himself more time.

Someone even argued that if something happened he could provide protection. Well, what if it happened to him? Now there is a gun in the room and anyone has access to it. If it were someone with a knife, then now the situation has become much more dangerous. God forbid it was a person with another gun, because now that person has more ammo.

This is a school. Have we all forgotten about what happens with guns in classrooms? I cannot think of one good thing that has happened with a gun in that environment, but a number of tragedies do come to mind.

The least of my concerns about this is that a gun in a classroom does not create the type of relaxed atmosphere that students desire in the classroom. There is no way that a gun will ever comfort me while I am trying to learn about Karl Marx's views on society.

And I am not even opposed to people owning guns. For all I care, an individual could own a fully automatic assault rifle and be using it for spotlighting herds of deer. As long as you keep it away from me in public settings, then fine.

This officer was obviously off duty at the time and did not have to be fully equipped. If he cannot arrange his work and school schedules in a more conducive way, then he should drop a class.

From what I understand, it's the law, not Western's policy, that says it's OK for an off-duty officer to carry his weapon if he

chooses to do so. I understand the law, and I still disagree.

Our university buildings are supposed to be firearm-free. That rule should not change just because a person has a badge on their chest, unless they are there on official police business.

This was an idiotic sight to behold, and I never thought this was something I would ever have to write about. There was no excuse for this individual to be in possession of that firearm at that time. I do not care about any issues in this individual's personal life that might have made it a hindrance for him to have not brought his gun. Billy club, fine; pepper spray, fine; handcuffs, fine; but a firearm, no.

If I see this again I will have to address it with the department head. I pay my tuition to come to school here, and at the very least I should have the guarantee of a safe and relaxed study environment.

Simply put, under no circumstances should I ever see a gun in a classroom. Leave it behind. I do not care what you do with it, but do not bring it into a room full of people who are concentrated on achieving higher learning.

Brandon Wilson is a senior news/editorial journalism major from Nashville.

The opinions expressed in this commentary do not reflect the opinions of the Herald or the university.

These are the Herald's views on the good, the bad and the slightly unattractive.

TOPS & Bottoms



Let's hear it for the Western students in Big Brothers Big Sisters, who make up most of the volunteers in the program. There's no better way of giving back than by giving to kids.



A big thanks for the students and faculty whose research and hard work are making the new arbo-return a success. Other universities are no doubt green with envy.



A round of applause to Body Image Week, for letting everyone feel good about themselves, no matter their size or shape.



A despondent sigh for the coming two weeks before spring break, which will seem so painfully long. We're already suffering daydreams of road trips and beach parties.

COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

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The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. Here are a few guidelines:

1. Letters should not exceed 250 words, and commentaries should be 500-600 words.
2. Originality counts. There's no grade at stake here. Please don't submit plagiarized work.
3. For verification, letters and commentaries must include your name, phone number, home town and classification or title. YOUR WORK WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION IF YOU FAIL TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION.
4. If you choose to e-mail your letter or commentary, please do not send it as an e-mail attachment. We use Macintosh computers.
5. Letters may not run in every edition due to space constraints.
6. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald DOES NOT PRINT LIBELOUS LETTERS OR COMMENTARIES.

DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in this newspaper DO NOT reflect those of Western's administration or of its employees.



Facilities

# Got milk? Western will

By JESSICA VANWINKLE  
*Herald reporter*  
Western and the Student Government Association are trying to make students healthier.

Milk will be available on meal plans starting March 9, said Kayla Shelton, student affairs chairwoman and a freshman from Gallatin, Tenn.

She announced the change during Tuesday's SGA meeting.

Johnathon Boles, speaker of the senate, said students expressed concern to him about milk not being an option on meal plans.

Boles said he told Shelton the students' concerns, and she

did something about it.

SGA wants students to come with their ideas and opinions, Boles said. Then SGA tries to help.

Shelton said she asked Roy Biggers, district manager of ARAMARK food services, about putting milk on meal plans.

**Milk will be available on meal plans starting March 9, said Kayla Shelton, student affairs chairwoman of SGA.**

Biggers then talked to Shelton about the issue, and he called her shortly afterward to tell her that he had arranged it, Shelton said.

Biggers could not be reached for comment.

She said students should be happy about this addition.

"Milk is a healthy alternative to soda or water,"

Shelton said.

Fred Mildner, senior food services director, said he's glad milk was added.

Western wanted to milk to be available on meal plans because it offers more variety, he said.

"It gives a healthy option to students and guests," Mildner said.

Two percent milk is better than soda, he said.

It's up to students to decide what they eat and drink, but they have a choice, Mildner said.

Western is looking into adding more healthy options to meal plans, he said.

Western already has some healthy options, such as Subway, Milner said.

Reach Jessica VanWinkle at news@wkuherald.com.

Campus government

# SGA meeting cut short by early adjournment

By JESSICA VANWINKLE  
*Herald reporter*

There were unfinished items on the agenda, but Student Government Association members went home.

Elizabethtown sophomore Kendrick Bryan, legislative research committee chairman, motioned to adjourn Tuesday's meeting before SGA could finish its weekly business, and the majority of the senate voted to adjourn.

SGA called a rare special meeting to focus on unfinished business. The senate will meet at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Boles said.

SGA will still meet March 6, he said.

Bryan said all the bills were up for first read, and senators can review those bills on their own time.

There was no new business he knew of besides those bills, Bryan said.

These bills were up for first reads and they'll be up for second reads Thursday, said Johnathon Boles, speaker of the senate.

Boles said he was disappointed the meeting was adjourned, but SGA will make up for it at Thursday's meeting.

"We have to remember the purpose of SGA, regardless of whether the meeting ended early," Boles said.

Boles said he has addressed Bryan and a few other senators about the incident.

The senate will decide whether or not to pass the election codes on Thursday, Boles said.

SGA has to approve the codes before elections, he said.

One of the changes to the codes is that candidates can't campaign through mass e-mails, President Jeanne Johnson said.

Applications for SGA are

due March 21, Boles said during Tuesday's meeting.

Executive Vice President Amanda Allen said it was unfortunate that the meeting adjourned early.

"There wasn't really anything we could do about it, though," Allen said. "Once the motion is on the floor, we have to vote on it."

Executive council members said at the Feb. 20 SGA meeting that senators needed to participate more.

In other business

Skylar Jordan, Student Government Association director of academic and student affairs, told senators that SGA will have another rally for plus/minus grading.

Plans for the next rally will be discussed later, Jordan said.

Reach Jessica VanWinkle at news@wkuherald.com.

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Facilities

# Electrical work will cause more trenching

**BY SUSIE LAUN**  
*Herald reporter*

More trenching is tentatively scheduled for the end of the semester, but it could save students from being left in the dark.

Trenching along Normal Drive from Regents Avenue and around Grise Hall will be part of a project to increase electricity capacity, Senior Project Manager Ben Johnson said.

Some of Western's electricity is running on old equipment, which could cause problems such as power outages, he said.

The upgrade includes increasing the voltage to 14,600 volts, which will give Western

more power, Johnson said.

The new system will last 50 to 70 years, Johnson said.

Doug Ault, director of planning, design and construction said the new system will offer better stability.

The current phase costs about \$1.9 million, but it will cost about \$20 million to complete the rest of campus, Ault said.

Western is requesting \$20 million from the state to complete the upgrade, Ault said.

The trench will be about five feet wide and five feet deep, Johnson said.

Most of the trenching will be on the grassy areas on Normal

Drive, Johnson said. Trenching in places such as Mass Media and Technology Hall could extend into the street, disrupting traffic.

Western and the city discussed the problem, Ault said. It could impact the entrance to the Mimosa lot, but there's an alley entrance, so parking problems should be minimal.

Work should be complete before next semester, Johnson said.

There will be unfinished above-ground work, but the construction phase will be finished by December, Ault said.

Some students don't think the construction will affect them.

"It won't affect me person-



Jake Stevens/Herald

**Scottsville resident John Carter places** the familiar orange fencing back into place in front of Schneider Hall. Carter, who works for Scott and Ritter Inc., said there's a lot of work being done on campus, but the stadium is the most important.

ally, but I'm tired of seeing construction every time I walk out the door," Frankfort junior Shane Slattery said.

Louisville freshman Bethany Dobson said she walks that way, but the trenching won't bother her because she'll walk up the

Hill another way.

*Reach Susie Laun at news@wkuherald.com.*

## TREKKING

Continued from front page

I found myself to be surprisingly energized by the end it, in spite of it being a very long walk and that I was nearly out of breath.

**Total distance walked** — 3.8 miles.

### Day Two

I won't lie — my second

day didn't prove to be any more ordinary than the first. I did manage to catch a ride with friends everywhere I went, severely cutting down on my walking.

I found myself to be more sluggish, even tired, unlike the high energy I had felt from the first day. I also felt stiff and caught myself dozing off between breaks.

**Total distance walked** — 0.25 miles.

### Day Three

I walked up the Hill to the Herald office in Garrett Center, continued routines from previous days and drove only to run some errands.

I noted no special differences in my energy than I usually would on normal days. However, I did feel more energetic in comparison to the previous day and didn't need an afternoon nap.

**Total distance walked** —

1.8 miles.

Although this experiment was just for fun, I drew from it some very real conclusions. Walking gives a person a lot more energy than it expends.

I burned 261 and 126 calories from walking on the first and third days, respectively, and only burned 17 calories on the second.

An average person typically burns 156 calories in 40 minutes of walking

each working day, adding up to 780 calories per week. It takes burning 3,500 calories to lose one pound, said Laura Hall, Preston Center exercise coordinator.

Walking on an uphill incline would increase the calories burned at Western, Hall said.

"Walking on an incline is very good exercise," Hall said. "Your heart rate is increased, and you lose more calories than you would

walking on flat land. It's just a great idea to maintain health and vitality."

So, when it comes to the Hill, people should just suck it up and do it, Glasgow sophomore Mary Grace Brooks said.

"Walking is a lot easier than driving around to find parking," Brooks said. "It just makes more sense. Plus, you can't beat the exercise."

*Reach Michael Hall at features@wkuherald.com.*

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# MONOLOGUES

Continued from front page

Women in the Women's Studies 400 class performed the monologues in the Mass Media and Technology Hall auditorium.

Audience members laughed as they listened to some of the shared experiences about sex, periods and moaning.

"We all do want to talk about our vaginas," said Emily Gillespie, a junior from Roanoke, Va.

The issues discussed are things most women aren't ready to talk about, she said.

The monologues empower women, Gillespie said.

Lexington freshman Amanda Currier attended the monologues for the first time. Currier said the monologues weren't what she expected, but she enjoyed them.

"It changed my point of view on what womanhood can be," she said.

Franklin freshman Fallon Burress said her favorite monologue was "My Angry Vagina," performed by Stephanie Youroukos, a senior from Harrisburg, Ill., because she

thought it captured the female perspective well.

Burress said the performances didn't make her want to talk about her vagina in public, but they did empower her.

Gillespie performed two of the monologues. She said the second was her favorite to perform, even though she was a little nervous.

Everyone was on top of their game and put a lot into their performance, Bowling Green sophomore Tiffany Cherry said.

"It turned out better than I expected," she said.

"The Vagina Monologues" was written by Eve Ensler, who conducted more than 200 interviews asking women about their vaginas, according to the Web site [www.vday.org](http://www.vday.org).

The theme of this year's monologues is women in conflict zones to spotlight that war increases crimes against women and girls.

Proceeds went to Hope Harbor and Barren River Area Safe Space.

Reach Susie Laun  
at [news@wkuherald.com](mailto:news@wkuherald.com).



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## Campus life

# BMW makes return to Western

## Organization strives to better black males

By STEPHANIE KEENE  
Herald reporter

Louisville sophomore Alford Beck wants to see a change on campus. He doesn't want more construction. Beck wants the retention rate of black males to increase at Western.

He wants black men at Western to get more involved and become leaders within the community.

Instead of sitting around and complaining, Beck decided to do something about it. Teaming up with Creston Lynch, the assistant director of the Office of Diversity Programs, they formed a plan to resurrect Black Men of Western, a program specifically designed to increase the retention rates of black males at Western and promote them to strive for excellence.

BMW was originally started in early 2000 by C.J. Woods, the former director of Diversity Programs, said Monica Burke, associate director of Diversity Programs.

The organization deactivated around 2004 because of lack of interest and the graduation of its members.

Now in 2007, BMW is back. "It's important for African-American men to have a networking system to further them socially and culturally," Lynch said.

With 20 new members, Beck said he hopes BMW will become a widely recognized name on campus.



Jordan Pendley/Herald

Warren East Middle School student Janos Briscoe, right, challenged Louisville sophomore Alford Beck to a wrestling match on Saturday. Beck's organization, Black Men of Western, started a semester-long program to show minority middle school students the benefits of college. "It's good for the guys because they get to meet the kids and know their names," Beck said. "It's like having a little brother or sister."

"We want to raise GPAs, we want to stop fights at parties," Beck said. "Involvement in BMW can shape the black males at Western to be positive role models — to want to better themselves."

San Antonio freshman Joseph Millhouse, vice president of BMW, said he believes BMW will succeed this time because of Beck's determination.

"He will go to the end of the world to make this program suc-

ceed," Millhouse said. "He sees a need for a positive change in a lot of the black males at Western."

Lynch said he feels the organization's success is necessary for the success of black men on campus. BMW is an opportunity to provide a level of support for the students, he said.

Reginald Lane, a junior from Bradenton, Fla., said he thinks the program won't fade away.

"There's no guarantee it will always be around. Hopefully it

will be," Lane said. "But as long as we keep implementing success as a key focus, there will always be someone to follow."

"It took someone else to bring BMW back up, and if there is ever a time it fails again there will be another positive black male to bring it back out again."

Reach Stephanie Keene  
at [features@wkuherald.com](mailto:features@wkuherald.com).

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## Greek life

# No decision made on sign issue

BY CHRISTINA ALLEN  
*Herald reporter*

All signs point to indecision. The Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity Alumni Association can't come to a unanimous decision about the fate of their yard sign.

Tuesday night, the AGR alumni association held a board meeting to discuss business matters.

They discussed whether to remove the sign displaying the fraternity name from the front yard of the former fraternity house Tuesday night, but they came to no definite decision, said Jenks Britt, AGR alumnus and associate

agriculture professor.

Brad Roberts, an owner of the house, previously told the Herald that the meeting would take place Wednesday.

Western and the fraternity's national office suspended the AGRs after police found a goat in a small basement storage room of the fraternity house in February 2006.

The goat was intended as part of a practical joke in which new members were led to believe they had to have sex with it as part of their initiation, the Herald previously reported.

Western suspended the fraternity for three years, and the national office has suspended

the chapter indefinitely.

Philip Josephson said the fraternity is not recognized as an organization on Western's campus, but the organization has no plans to take legal action against the house owners.

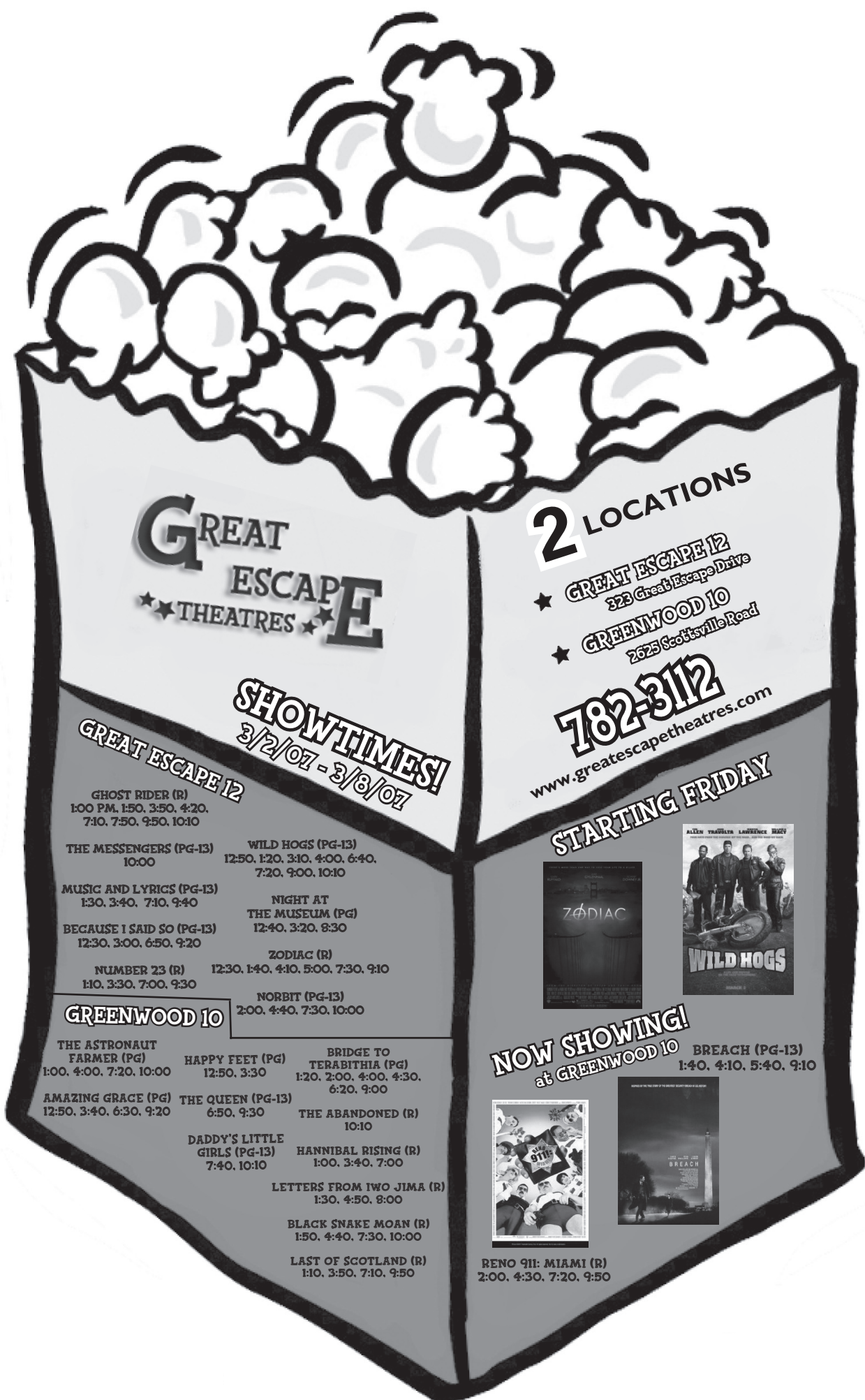
"The house is owned by the AGR alumni corporation," he said. "They're still AGRs, and they've done nothing wrong."

Britt said the alumni are

under no obligation to remove the sign because Western released a statement saying the organization is no longer recognized at Western. Therefore, the alumni are not under the university's jurisdiction.

**Philip Josephson**  
Executive Director

Reach Christina Allen  
at [news@wkuherald.com](mailto:news@wkuherald.com).



AΔΠ  
2007 Crush Dance

## 2007 Crush Dance

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Andrew Hawkins	Eric Carter	Michael Hansen
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Blake Edwards	James Perry	Reeze Shonkenfeldon
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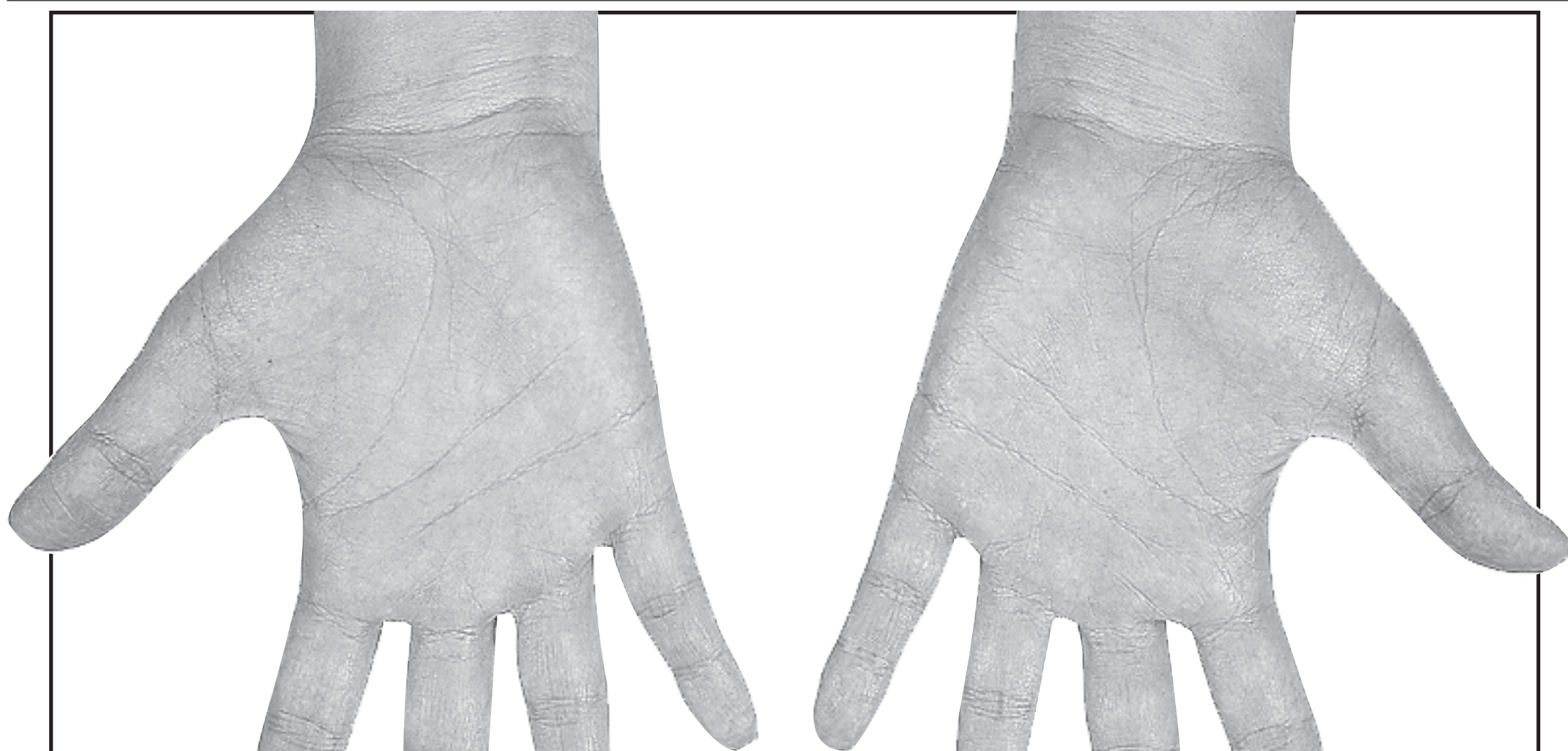
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# Child care issues mature in resolution

By JENNIFER DOOPER  
Herald reporter

The University Senate wants to expand its student base — for toddlers.

Western is a growing university, and with this growth comes a need for more child care, said John All, vice chairman of the University Senate.

The senate passed a resolution on Feb.15 urging administration to expand child care services.

The resolution represents one of the steps Western is taking toward making child care options more available to employees and students in the face of an increasingly young population.

Short-term child care goals include increasing funding for current child care services at the facility in Jones-Jaggers Hall, the resolution states. The long-term objec-

tive is to secure a quality child care facility on or near campus.

“As we grow, this is part of growing pains,” All said.

Many parents are put on a waiting list before their children can be accepted, said Colleen Mendel, executive director of Training and Technical Assistance Services.

“There is a huge need for high quality child care, especially for infants and toddlers,” she said.

The child care center gives priority to children in Head Start and Early Head Start, she said.

Head Start is a federally funded program for 3-to-5-year-old children of low-income families. There’s enough money between the Jones-Jaggers and Bryant Way facilities to care for 75 children for five hours each weekday, Mendel said.

The Early Head Start program

serves children from 6 weeks to 2 years old. There are currently 15 Early Head Start slots available at Western, Mendel said.

Additional spaces are offered to children whose parents can pay for daycare services, she said.

“If we just had more space, we could serve more children,” Mendel said.

The number of traditional and nontraditional students who are parents is growing, and quality child care is difficult to find within a reasonable radius of Western, according to the resolution.

The cost of child care increases annually, so a greater strain is placed on students who are parents, the resolution stated.

Michelle Hollis, chairwoman of the senate, knows what it’s like to need child care during school.

Hollis, who teaches math



Shannon L. Zirkle/Herald

Three-year-olds Natalie Duncan, left, and Anaijan Meadows, both of Bowling Green, play in their preschool class on Wednesday at Western’s child care center in Jones-Jaggers Hall.

at Bowling Green Community College, brought her daughter to class with her when she was a graduate assistant.

“I could not afford to be out for three weeks,” she said.

That was nine years ago. Hollis said she doesn’t have a problem when students bring

their children to class.

“I’d rather the students be there with their child than miss class,” she said.

Assistant Economics Professor Claudia Strow said she and her husband, Brian Strow, who is also an assistant economics professor, would look

into using an on-campus facility, depending on how it compared to current arrangements.

The Strows employ a babysitter and people from their church to help care for their three children.

Reach Jennifer Dooper  
at news@wkuherald.com.

Column

# Cell phone loss leads to withdrawal, freedom



UNPROTECTED  
TEXT  
Joey Leslie

My name is Joey, and I’m a cell phone-aholic.

It’s a hard thing for me to admit. Until recently I could say that I had never been addicted to anything. The only support group I needed met weekly at Puerto’s for margaritas.

Usually, I’m predictably capricious. I find something I love (a song, a drink, a brand of cologne, etc.) and over-indulge in it until I hate it.

But, after losing it recently, I realized I’m completely dependent upon my phone.

Soon after discovering my phone was missing came the symptoms of withdrawal. I became irritable, had delusions of grandeur and a feeling of impending doom.

How would I survive without it? I only had a few numbers memorized, so borrowing a phone would rarely help. And what about all the times when I was driving alone or on my way to class? What if an emergency popped up or I saw a crime happen? I wondered if pay phones still existed.

I immediately began scheming ways to get a new phone and get it cheap. But, having no phone, I obviously couldn’t call my “cell guy.”

My cravings intensified.

It was difficult to adjust to life without my phone in the following days. Out of habit, I reached in my bag to call a friend to make lunch plans.

I reached for it to do a quick calculation. I reached for it to set my alarm for a cat nap. I reached for it to pretend I was preoccupied when walking past a person I didn’t want to talk to.

Each time I was overcome with disappointment and frustration. I yearned for it more every day.

I felt like Inspector Gadget would if he entered rehab and was castrated of all his handy accoutrements.

My phone served as my watch and my calendar of events. It was my lifeline when I needed directions or needed to clarify mumbled song lyrics on a moment’s notice.

I was without my handy camera to inconspicuously take pictures of the oddities of human nature or people climbing awkwardly back to their feet after a fall.

I felt completely unarmed, vulnerable and deprived.

It was my crutch.

What if something came up and a friend needed a favor? Or work called to ask me to pick up a shift? Or the police called me in for questioning for some bizarre reason? The fact

was, I was completely adrift and unreachable by family, friends and everyone else. Then, a revelation came — I was free.

I think they call this the recovery phase.

Not knowing where my cell was, I no longer felt compelled to check it every five minutes to see if I had received a text message reply from my secret admiree. This also meant that I could no longer obsess when I hadn’t.

Being phone-free meant I didn’t have to question my popularity when I hadn’t reached my quota of received calls by lunch. I simply assumed that I had missed thousands of calls and people were wondering what scandalous occurrence had prompted me to rehabilitate.

But as addictions go, I still yearned for it all the live-long day.

My mother, an unwitting enabler, eventually sent me a replacement phone and I slid euphorically back into my old habits despite the negative side effects.

The cycle of dependency continues, this time without the denial. I’m a functional cell phone-aholic among thousands of others just like me.

But we can all rest assured that help is only a phone call away.

Joey Leslie is a senior news/editorial journalism major from Pikeville and a features reporter for the Herald. He can be reached at features@wkuherald.com.

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Sarah Dudik/Herald

Jeff Rogers, father of junior guard Ty Rogers, waves his red towel to cheer on the Hilltoppers during their last home game of the season on Saturday at Diddle Arena against Florida International.

DAD

Continued from page 14

payroll and database record-keeping.

“We’ve been blessed with good jobs where we can schedule vacations almost anytime that we want it,” Jeff said. “And we’ve been blessed with jobs that make it financially possible for us to see so many of his games.”

Since Ty was in middle school, both Jeff and Pam have made it a point to attend as many of their son’s basketball games as possible.

Jeff said Ty began playing basketball for Lyon County High School when he was in the seventh grade.

Whether it was high school games or AAU basketball, Jeff said he just didn’t want to miss a game.

“It didn’t matter where they went; if it was Las Vegas, it was Las Vegas, if it was Fort Wayne, Ind., it was Fort Wayne, Ind.,” he said. “It’s something that I always thought was important — to follow him and support him, whatever he was doing.”

Ty is in his third season at Western, where he has career-high averages of 9.2 points and 1.8 rebounds per game.

Amid the thousands of fans that fill Diddle Arena, Ty is always able to find a few familiar faces.

Jeff said that before Ty steps on the floor, he looks up and makes eye contact with his father and stepmother, then looks the other direction to find his mother, who sits where many other team parents sit, across the court from the team bench.

“It’s just a wonderful feeling to know that you have support from your family, not

only at home games but at most away games as well,” Ty said. “I thank God for blessing me with a family like that.”

According to Pam and Jeff, the travel is about more than watching Ty play basketball.

“We like to let him know that we are there for him, no matter what he’s doing,” Pam said. “He has a great support system, between his mother, his father and I, and even his grandmother and cousins, who make it to a lot of the home games.”

Jeff said there is no way to replace time spent with his family.

“The way I look at it is, any game I possibly miss is a game I’m never going to get back,” Jeff said. “When you look at it like that, you need to take advantage of the opportunities you’ve got and just do it, and make it happen.”

Reach Ed Lukins  
at sports@wkuherald.com.

Sports club roundup

◆ The women’s lacrosse club (1-5) dropped two home matches on Saturday against regional foes. In the early match, Western fell to Taylor University 4-2.

In the late match, Western was no contest to Kentucky as it was throttled 17-1.

Junior Jess Cole and sophomores Lauren Beaty and Carry Allen scored the only three goals of the day for the Lady Toppers.

“We did the best we could against the tough competition,” senior Sarah Czyn said. “I’m extremely happy about how our team is coming along.”

◆ The men’s lacrosse club (1-3) split its doubleheader in Louisville on Saturday.

Louisville defeated Western 9-7 in the first match of the day at the SGA Parkway Field Complex.

“The goals were really widespread around the team,” sophomore Nick Johnson said.

The men recovered with a 14-11 win over Marshall in game two.

Junior Adam Hollmeyer led the scoring against Marshall with five goals.

◆ The Preston Center was home to the first semester event of the Dodgeball Club this weekend.

Sixty members participated in the intrasquad scrimmage on Saturday. Another scrimmage will be held on Sunday in the Preston Center.

“Rule #73” and “Pike Garnet” finished the day with an unblemished 4-0 record. Five other teams competed on Saturday, including 3-1 “S.C.K.” and 2-2 “Pike Gold.”

Upcoming events

◆ Women’s lacrosse vs. Centre College — 11 a.m. March 4 at the Preston Intramural Complex.

— Ryne Dunkelberger

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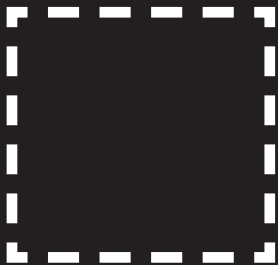
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Baseball

# Batters swing to a different beat

By Will Perkins  
Herald reporter

On a warm, sunny day at Denes Field, amidst the smell of hot dogs, several bobbing heads were synchronized with the beat of classic rock music.

Enjoyed, but occasionally overlooked, the playing of music during baseball games makes the sport somewhat unique.

As the sport has many natural breaks built into its structure, the playing of music fills the otherwise-silent sections.

"Instead of silence, it gives fans something to listen to so they don't get bored and lose track of the game," senior third baseman Scotty Colt said.

Having happy fans at the games is important and provides motivation to perform well, he said.

Music can also act as a supplement to fan-created chants.

Lexington junior Stanley "Soul Train" Jefferson said music during games gives him the motivation to pump up the crowd.

"It fires me up," he said. "It gets me in the right mood for the game."

Player-chosen clips of songs are played each time a Topper steps up to the plate.

When senior designated hitter Casey Hamilton walks into the batter's box, Big and Rich's "Save a Horse (Ride a Cowboy)" can be heard through the loud speakers.

Hamilton said he likes the song but that he doesn't think about it too much.

For others, it's a part of their routine.

Colt said stepping up with Gary Allan's "Right Where I

Need to Be," is a way for him to relax.

Associate Psychology Professor Steven Wininger said if the music is part of the player's routine, it can help him get into the proper mental state.

He said his only concern was when players compete on the road. The lack of that part of their routine could take them out of their rhythm.

"A pre-batting routine is a good idea, but only if you have it every time," Wininger said.

He said it depends on the individual and how the routine works for them.

"For some players, the music may be distracting," Wininger said. "They may get nervous and wonder if people think the song (they chose) is cool or not."

Colt said not having their songs played on the road doesn't

affect the team much.

"I don't think it bothers anyone," he said.

The Toppers (5-1) return to action with a four-game win-streak 3 p.m. Friday for a home series against Purdue (1-2).

## Carter recognized by conference

Freshman Bart Carter (2-0) was named the Sun Belt Conference's Pitcher of the Week Tuesday.

In his first career start, Carter shut out Xavier over six innings with seven strikeouts.

Freshman Matt Ridings (2-0) received the honor two weeks ago, giving Western the award each week it has competed.

Reach Will Perkins  
at sports@wkuherald.com.

# COWLES

Continued from page 14

people that when she decides to do something, they only know one way, and that is all-out," Sanderford said. "I think her ability to attract good players to Western and get them to play hard helps as well. Her teams reflect Mary. They are very competitive, they get after you and play hard."

Cowles, who played under Sanderford from 1988 to 1991, said she has taken a number of things away from being around him.

"Not to make it sound like a cliché," she said, "but I would really say that hard work and a passion for what I do is something I came to Western with, and it was something that (Sanderford) just really continued to hit home with. He did it not necessarily by talking about it, he did it by example."

The players Cowles has been able to bring to the Hill have been instrumental in the team's success.

Former Lady Topper Tiffany Porter-Talbert was named Sun Belt player of the year in 2004, the same season that junior forward Crystal Kelly was tabbed with conference freshman of the year honors.

Kelly said the Lady Toppers' overall scheme has not changed very much in Cowles' tenure.

"Every year you put in a few new things," she said. "But the main thing is to worry about ourselves. We adjust little things to prepare for different opponents, but you just focus on you and keep things the same."

Cowles' teams have also featured five all-Sun Belt performers, and four conference all-tournament team selections.

She has earned the Sun Belt coach of the year award twice in her career at Western, in 2003 and 2006.

In the future, Cowles said her goal is to accomplish something both Summitt and Auriemma have done with their teams numerous times: help the Lady Toppers hoist an NCAA championship trophy.

Reach David Harten  
at sports@wkuherald.com.

Softball

# Toliver makes big impact on Little Sister

By Andrew Robinson  
Herald reporter

What started as fulfilling a community service requirement for a class has turned into something senior outfielder Renikka Toliver has always wanted to do.

Toliver takes two to four hours out of her week to mentor 10-year-old Dedra Allen, a fifth-grader at Dishman-McGinnis Elementary School. Toliver is a Big Sister for Allen through Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Kentucky.

Whether it is chatting while walking around the Greenwood Mall or grabbing a bite to eat, Toliver's main focus is to make sure she is a positive role model for Allen.

"I started about a year ago by just going to school and talking to her about school and stuff," Toliver said.

Toliver said she took Allen

to basketball games at Diddle Arena and expects her to come to softball games once the Lady Toppers start playing at home.

The Lady Toppers open March 6 against Austin Peay.

Toliver said she knew before she came to Western that she wanted to be a mentor. She didn't want to mentor college kids because she said they're already set in their ways.

"I felt like that was my motivation, was just to impact one kid's life," Toliver said.

Toliver said she realizes that mentoring comes with pressure and that she is looked at as a role model by Allen.

"It makes me feel good to know that someone's looking up at me thinking, 'Wow, I want to be something like her,'" Toliver said.

Allen said she likes hanging out with Toliver and she is

someone she looks up to.

"It's great," Allen said.

Children mentored through the program are 52 percent less likely to skip school, 46 percent less likely to begin using illegal drugs and are more inclined to get along with their families and peers, according to the Big Brothers Big Sisters Web site.

Brian Becker, the program director for Big Brother Big Sisters of South Central Kentucky, said about 60 to 70 percent of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters have an affiliation with Western.

Becker said Toliver and Allen seem to have a great relationship.

"(Allen's) parents always have something good to say about Renikka," Becker said.

Head coach Rachel Lawson said a well-rounded person like Toliver is the type of player

Lawson likes to recruit.

"It's important we get out in the community, we help other people and that there's something much bigger than our sport," Lawson said.

Lawson said she encourages her players to get out in the community and serve along the lines of the player's interests.

"I just want to show (Allen) that I can balance everything and try to be positive," Toliver said. "On the field, I try to work hard, and work as hard as the next person."

Toliver is ranked second on the team with a .294 batting average and leads with five steals.



"I'm planning to be a Big Sister, Little Sister (with Allen) for as long as I can," Toliver said.

Reach Andrew Robinson  
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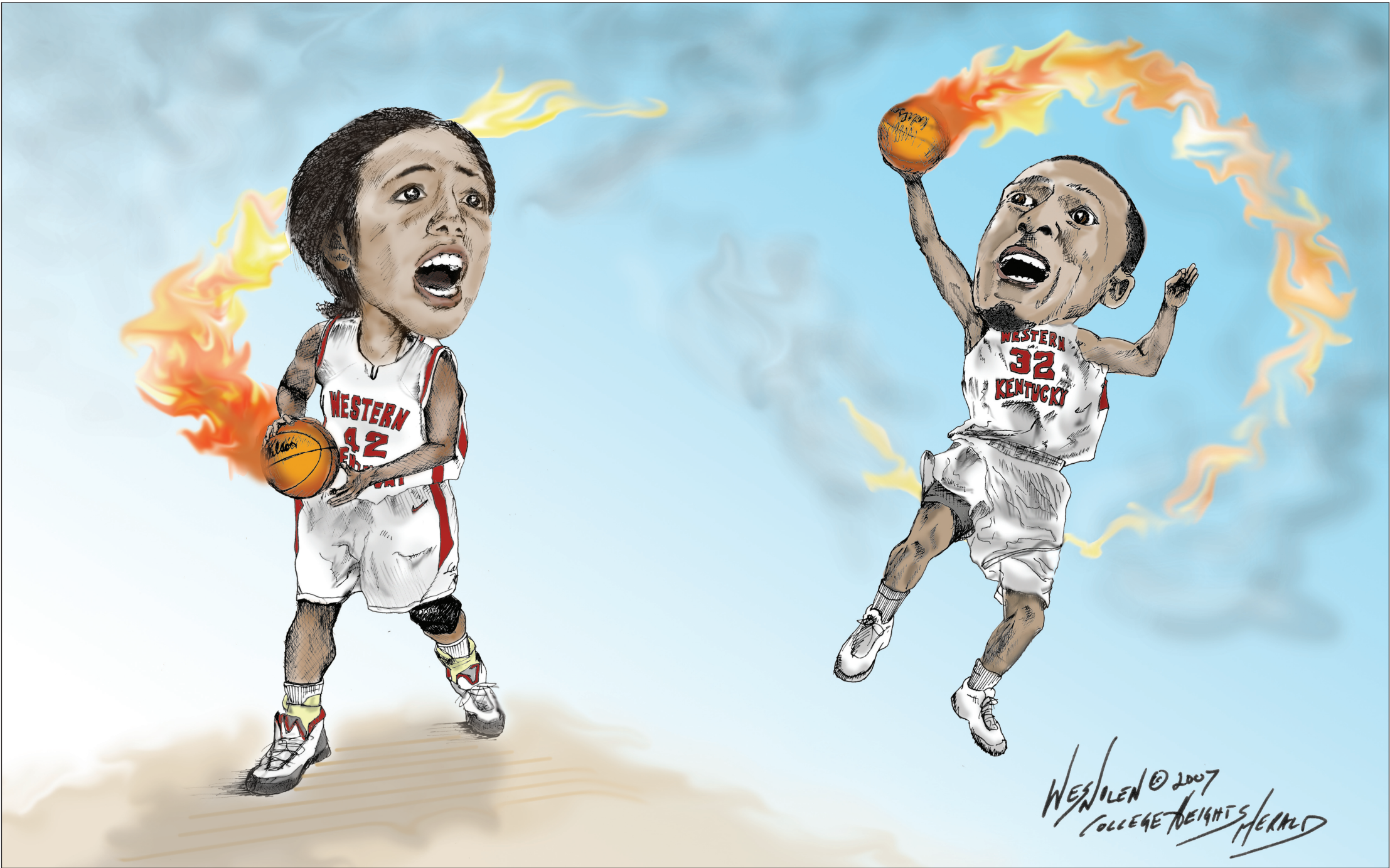
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# Toppers must turn up heat to survive

## Teams travel to Lafayette, La., for Sun Belt Conference Tournament

### LADY TOPPER OUTLOOK

The 2007 Sun Belt Conference Tournament will mark the first time under coach Mary Taylor Cowles that the Lady Toppers will not go in with at least a share of the East Division crown.

With the inclusion of conference newcomers Louisiana-Monroe and Florida Atlantic, the tournament has moved to a modified format. Both Middle Tennessee State and Louisiana-Lafayette received byes in the

first round after winning their divisions. Western received a bye with the third-best league record, at 14-4.

The heavy favorite is Middle Tennessee, ranked No. 17 by both The Associated Press and ESPN/USA Today polls, which finished 18-0 in conference play.

Western has lost four of its last five games to MTSU, including an 84-73 loss in last season's Sun Belt tournament

championship game.

The Lady Toppers are 0-3 this season against the top two seeds in the tournament, MTSU and Louisiana-Lafayette.

Western may be without the services of sophomore forward and All-Sun Belt performer Dominique Duck, who has missed the past three games with a leg injury.

— David Harten

### TOPPER OUTLOOK

The Toppers march into the Sun Belt Conference Tournament on the heels of their third straight 20-plus win season under coach Darrin Horn and with bitter memories of last season's meltdown against South Alabama in the championship game.

The Jaguars in the East and Arkansas State in the West received first-round byes for winning their respective divisions, while Western gets a

pass to the second round for finishing with the best record for non-division winners.

With a league mark of 12-6, the Toppers finished a game behind South Alabama, which, despite losing its final three games of the regular season, enters as the favorite to repeat as tournament champions.

Florida Atlantic defeated Western International, 91-88 in overtime, last night for the

right to play Western at 9 p.m. Sunday. The Owls split the season series with the Toppers, with both teams getting the victory on the road.

Western, however, has gone 0-2 this season against Arkansas-Little Rock and Arkansas State, who are both potential third round matchups for the Toppers.

— Ed Lukins



# Cowles in company with elite women's coaches

**BY DAVID HARTEN**  
*Herald reporter*

Tennessee coach Pat Summitt never did it. Neither did Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma.

In each of her first five seasons at the helm of the Lady Toppers, coach Mary Taylor Cowles has won at least 20 games.

Cowles has averaged 22 wins per season since taking over at Western in 2002, her first college head coaching position. She

joined the Lady Topper staff as an assistant coach in 1995.

Cowles gives credit for the team's success to the people and players around her.

"We've had talented players," she said, "players who are willing to commit and buy into the system. They are definitely the starting point. My staff has been very committed and very willing to work hard and compete."

In the last five seasons, Western has won four Sun Belt Conference East Division titles, including

the 2003 Sun Belt Tournament championship. Western has also earned three trips to the Women's National Invitation Tournament and a berth in the 2003 NCAA Tournament.

In the history of the program, only coach Paul Sanderford has accomplished 20 wins in each of his first five seasons. Sanderford led the Lady Toppers to three Final Fours in his career and a national runner-up finish in 1992.

"I think Mary is one of those

SEE COWLES, PAGE 13

# No distance is too long for dad to watch ball

**BY ED LUKINS**  
*Herald reporter*

Las Vegas, Lincoln, Neb., and Denton, Texas, are all sites of Topper road games this season.

Not one is within 700 miles of Bowling Green, a fact that carries no weight for Jeff Rogers, who takes it upon himself to make the trip from Calvert City to every Western contest, home or away.

The only thing that matters to Rogers, 50, is that he make it to the game to support his son,

junior guard Ty Rogers, and the rest of the Toppers; something he and his wife, Pam, have failed to do just 13 times during the last three seasons.

"It's important to support him and his team, because the team needs all the fans it can get," Jeff Rogers said. "I love all those kids and I'm going to support every one of them."

How the two are able to get there depends on the length of the trip.

"If it's a 10-hour drive or

under, we're driving, but if it's more than that we've flown," he said. "But we're going to be there. God willing, we're going to be there."

Jeff Rogers is a human resources manager for Air Products and Chemicals, a generator and distributor of industrial gases in Calvert City near Kentucky Lake.

Pam, Ty's stepmother, also works at Air Products as an administrative assistant, handling

SEE DAD, PAGE 12